

The truth is out there...

There's more to the universe than meets the eye, according to a U of A researcher

7

FOIPPED again!

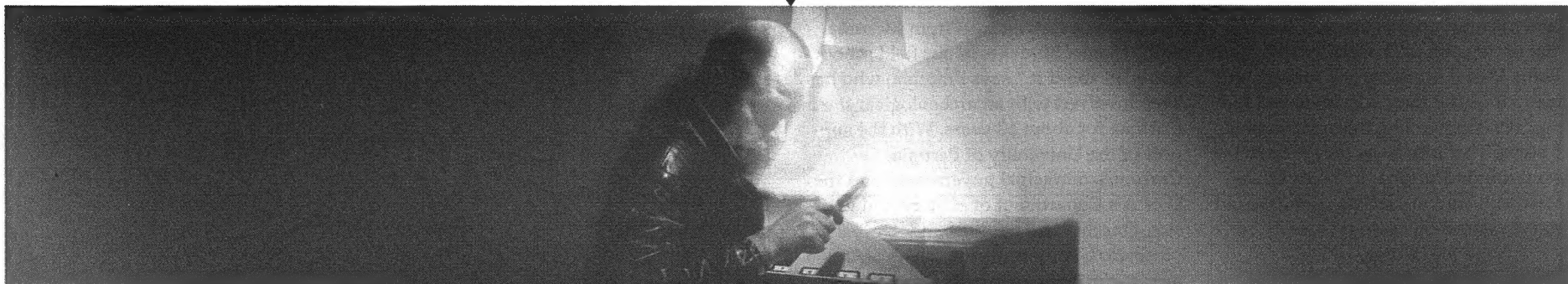
What does the looming Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP) deadline mean for the U of A?

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U of A and space

From the Hubble space telescope to the innermost secrets of matter

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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New centre tackles number one killer—injuries

More than 1,400 Albertans die needlessly each year

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

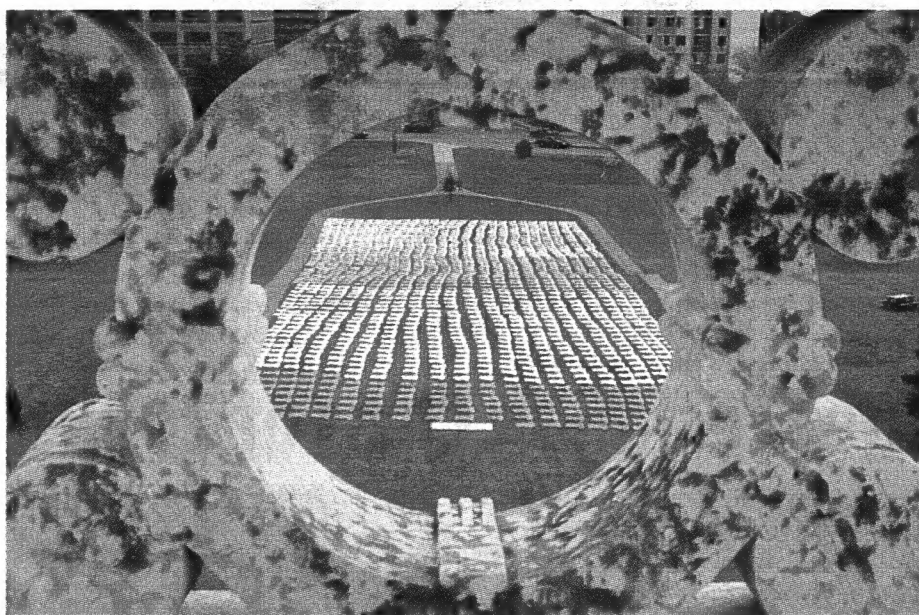
One by one, the T-shirts were laid out, row after row of white, green, grey and blue. Not exactly a rainbow of color but rather a sombre reminder.

Each shirt represented a person who died in Alberta as a result of injury: more than 1,400 from motor vehicle accidents (white), suicides (green), fall-related injuries (blue) and a combination of other injuries (grey). Overhead, a STARS helicopter circled while its grounded companions—fire trucks and ambulances—parked nearby.

It was a dramatic message laid out on the lawn of Corbett Hall Sept. 28 to launch the official opening of the Alberta Centre for Injury Control and Research (ACICR), a partnership between the University of Alberta's Department of Public Health Sciences and Alberta Health. Unique in Canada, the ACICR aims to reduce the frequency of injuries in Alberta and optimize treatment and rehabilitation.

Every day, there are stories of accidental gun deaths, farming and workplace injuries, vehicle accidents and more. In fact, intentional and unintentional injury is the leading killer of Albertans between one and 44. But researchers say most injuries are not only predictable, they are preventable.

Gloria McDonald is hauntingly familiar with this credo but her story, fortunately, has a happy ending. On Mar. 16, 1998 she was in her car with her two children, 2-year-old Adam and 2-month-old Allison, on her way to visit her parents. Just a couple of blocks away from her home, she was involved in a collision. The jaws-of-life had to get her out.



More than 1,400 T-shirts adorn the lawn at Corbett Hall — one for each person killed by injury last year.

"It's scary to think if we weren't belted in properly what could have happened. The firemen were surprised, after looking at the car damage, that I could still walk." And walk she did. Right out of the Grey Nuns' Hospital that same day with a broken collarbone and some cuts and bruises. Her children were fine. Everybody had a seatbelt on. "We wouldn't be here today. The car was a write-off. We'd be one of those T-shirts on the lawn," said McDonald.

Joanne Vincenten, executive director, says the centre will prioritize education, enforcement and engineering. That means working with Alberta Transportation and Utilities and the Alberta Motor Associa-

tion to help reduce motor vehicle accidents. It means working closely with Suicide Education and Information Council to increase awareness about prevention and injury codes.

"Many fatalities are not classified as suicides," said Vincenten. There could be underreporting of the actual suicide numbers. But in addition to awareness building and injury coding, the centre will also conduct research. "Does research support the use of photo radar or red-light radar?" said Vincenten. These are some of the issues the ACICR will tackle.

The centre received \$750,000 in operating funds from the provincial government, "a significant first step to promote



The McDonald family

- ACICR supports injury prevention, emergency services, acute care and rehabilitation.
- Injuries account for more potential years of life lost than any other disease.
- There are more than 30,000 hospitalizations each year in Alberta due to injury.
- www.med.ualberta.ca/acicr

» quick » facts

and protect the health of all Albertans in this meaningful way," said health minister Halvar Jonson.

"We have to accept the fact that injuries are diseases, like cancer or any other disease," said Dr. Louis Francescutti, who is chairing the centre's advisory board. "We have a long way to go. It might take 20 years but we are going to make this the safest province in the country."

The first step can be as simple as wearing a seatbelt—always. "I couldn't imagine my life without my family," said Neil McDonald, Gloria's husband. "I can't see how anyone can take a risk with their children's lives." ■

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Faculty of Arts goes Italian

School in Cortona kicks off

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

When most Edmontonians will be waking up to cold, dark weather this January, some U of A students and faculty will be able to look out their windows and face rolling hills, sleepy olive trees and cobblestone steps. That's because they'll be living and studying in Cortona, Italy, an Etruscan town still surrounded by centuries-old walls and nestled oh-so-conveniently between Florence and Rome.

"We have pushed back the walls of the university," says Dr. Helena Fracchia, professor of classics and director of the new English-language School in Cortona. An extension of the U of A's Faculty of Arts, the school will offer students the opportunity to earn university credits in up to five classes in central Italy.

Where better to study Renaissance art or Italian history than in one of the very cradles of civilization?

"This is part of what you would expect from a mature university: offering new opportunities to students based on academic performances," says Fracchia.

The school is currently accepting applications for about 25 spots. Students are expected to arrive by Jan. 21, 1999 in order to participate in an orientation, get settled in and be ready for classes on the 25th, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed after their breakfast of *espresso e brioche* (Italian coffee and croissant.)

"We've received calls from Montreal and Toronto. Students in our field school know all about it," says Fracchia, who has been involved with an archeological site in Cortona for about 10 years. With the support of the University of Perugia, Cortona's municipal government and the U of A's Department of History and Classics, Fracchia and her husband, Dr. Maurizio Gualtieri, a professor emeritus now at the University of Perugia, established a field school to excavate a Roman villa in a nearby suburb.

"[The Italians] liked the organization of the field school. We had a good relationship and they liked how the Canadian students integrated into the community," says Fracchia. (And integrate they did: there have been five marriages and four children to date.)

By 1995, as the reputation of the studious Canadians grew, the town of Cortona wanted to increase the U of A's presence in its community. It offered classroom space, administrative support, and a library grant. It also struck a deal with the local hostel for room and board. Fracchia, meanwhile, recruited faculty from the U of A, American University in Florence and Cortona.

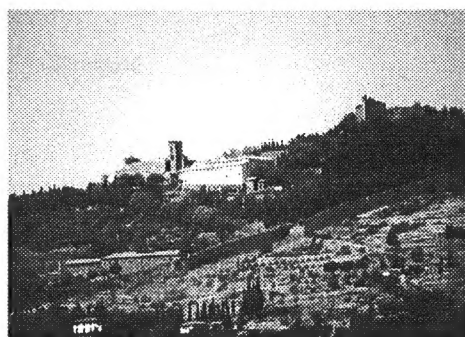
A five-person delegation from Italy including the *sindaco* (mayor) of Cortona, Ilio Pasqui, and the cultural assessor, Ida Nocentini, celebrated the opening of the school on this side of the Atlantic Sept. 18 with an Italian extravaganza of *spuntini* (snacks) including *bruschetta* (that's *brew-sketta* NOT *brew-shetta*) and, of course, *gelato* (Italian ice cream), to name a few morsels.

If students want to party in Cortona, it will have to be on their own time. "This is an academic term abroad. University standards are not being lowered in any way. If you want to party and fail, it's up to you," says Fracchia who is very much aware of other schools set up in Europe that have developed unsavory reputations.

Her goal is to expand their minds, and not just about Italian history and culture.



Cortona, Italy



"We don't realize the impact Canada has had in other parts of the world," says Fracchia, who mentions Canadian military history. "There are nearby cemeteries with Canadian contingents, in fact, one with a large contingent from Edmonton."

A thought students and faculty can keep in mind when trekking through time in Cortona. ■

- Cortona is a town of 22,700 people, sprawled on hills overlooking the Val di Chiana and Trasimene Lake
- It is nestled among some of the most important cities and towns of Medieval and Renaissance Italy
- By train, you can reach Florence in one hour, and Rome in an hour and a half
- The inaugural session is Jan. 21 to Apr. 23, 1999
- Tuition and fees for five courses: \$3,463.41
- Room and partial board for the four-month period: \$2,470.00
- For further information on the School in Cortona, contact: chris.jensen@ualberta.ca or visit www.humanities.ualberta.ca/arts/cortona.htm

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Correction

In the last issue of *Folio*, Director of Native Student Services Art Beaver was incorrectly identified as the director of native studies.

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The Freshman Class of 2008

In celebration of the 90th Anniversary of the first day of classes at the University of Alberta, a composition contest on the theme, *When I grow up I want to be*, was held for Edmonton Grade 3 students in Edmonton. Writers of the 10 winning entries each received a book prize, books for their school library, a commemorative T-shirt and a special invitation to attend the U of A in its centennial year, 2008.

Front Row: Stephen Berendt, George H. Luck School; Rita Chen, Malcolm Tweddle School; Nick Civiero, Brander Gardens School. **Middle Row:** Jessica Steingard, Scott Robertson School; Terenia Wynnnyk, St. Matthew School; Andrea Ouellet, Grandin School. **Back Row:** Brittany Jaremko, John Paul I Catholic School; Nicholas Sadoway, St. Martin Ukrainian Bilingual Catholic School; Lee Polowy, Mount Pleasant School; Miranda Nobbs, Blessed Kateri School.



Richard Siemens

When I grow up I want to be...

Winner of the Folio honorary mention

By Hannah Schmidt, Grade 3, Victoria Composite School

When I grow up I want to be a vet. I would help lots of pets. But I would have to work with guts so no. I want to be a zookeeper. I would clean and feed the animals. But the lion might bite my arm off so no. I want to be an artist.

I would make lots of statues. But I might break my fingers so no. I want to be a dancer. I would do jazz but I might break a bone so no. I want to be a mom, yes a mom. That is what I want to be because I don't have to be great but good. Maybe my

children will just want to be a mom and maybe my grandchildren will too. That means I won't be a vet, zookeeper, dancer or artist. That is the story of what I want to be when I grow up. Good bye folks. ■

FOIPPED again!

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

As the clock ticks, hundreds of university employees clean desk drawers, filing cabinets and shelves getting records ready for THE DEADLINE: Jan. 4, 1999.

That's when the University of Alberta will fall under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation or FOIPP for short. Preparation for FOIPP has created a FOIPP office and FOIPP liaison officers, heck, the word has even entered the vernacular as a verb, as in "Is this information FOIPPable?"

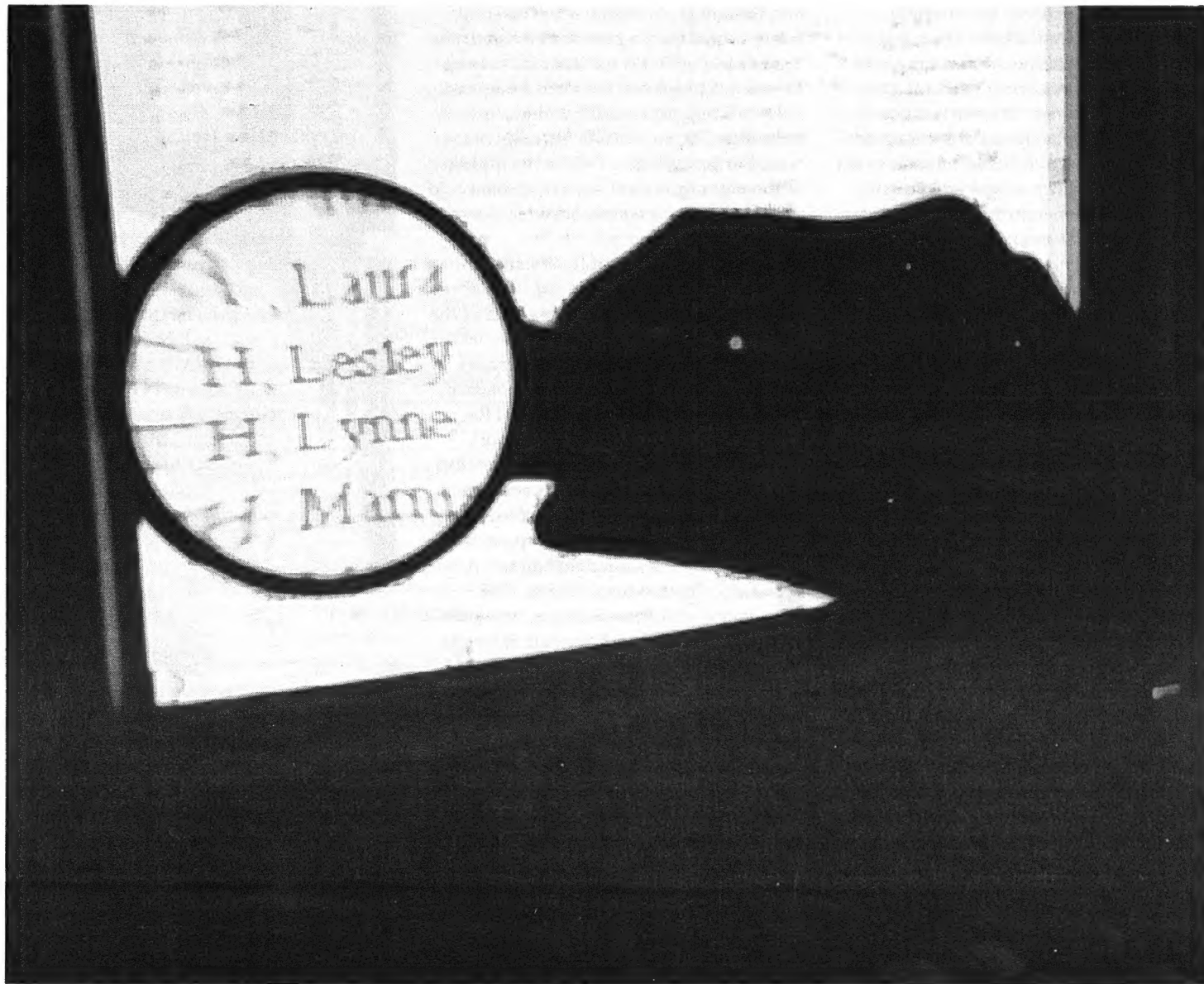
It's all about protecting the personal information we gather—while sharing it with the person it is about, if they ask. The provincial Act became law in 1994 and is now extending to other local public bodies, including health authorities, schools and municipalities.

So, what does this mean for the U of A with all its student, donor and alumni records? It depends on whom you talk to. As far as protecting university research, it's business as usual says Bryan Corbett, head of the U of A's FOIPP implementation team. But according to Guy Mallabone, director of development, FOIPP as it stands now will have an "Armageddon-like impact" on the business of fund-raising and alumni relations.

"We may be unable to send *New Trail* to alumni or to offer insurance coverage opportunities. We may be unable to produce and publish campaign stories," he says. It all depends on how the Act is interpreted. The letter of the law says you can't use information gathered for one purpose for any other purpose. The current commission seems willing to interpret that to mean we could send out *New Trail* to alumni if we asked their permission in the publication. However, says Mallabone, there's no guarantee that's how the Act will be interpreted by this—or future—commissioners. "It will severely curtail all major gifts fund-raising programs as structured in the university," says an impassioned Mallabone.

It may mean seeking individual permission from more than 170,000 alumni. "It's an impossibility," he says. FOIPP would also affect how fund-raisers cultivate relationships with donors and potential donors. Research in the development field often includes collecting information from public sources, like news clippings, and from first-hand sources, like friends and associates, and noting attendance at public events. It's to get a better understanding of what potential donors are interested in and what events and causes they support in their community.

On the research side, faculty will now have to have personal information agreements signed before using the information in the custody and control of the university. "For example, if a organization is collecting information from the general public about attitudes it would have to sign a research agreement," says Corbett. If it needed names and addresses of students for a survey on addictions, the agreement would cover itemization of the data and its uses. This is not to say, added Corbett,



confidentiality agreements are not already in use. "We have to satisfy ourselves as an institution that the research is in the public good and cannot be accomplished without access to this information."

Sharlene Coss, senior contracts manager in the Industry Liaison Office says, while no researcher has approached ILO with concerns, "We're still struggling with

how FOIPP will affect us on a day-to-day basis." It's unclear, says Coss, if the office will get any requests for information, or on the other hand, get inundated.

But as a publicly funded institution, one with a mandate to research and teach, "whatsoever things are true," how much information is open to the public?

"The university must restrict access to some materials and research so that it can fulfil its mandate to preserve and disseminate knowledge," says Dr. Stephen Kent, a sociology professor. "Scientists in many disciplines engage in research that has implications for parties with vested interest in the health, wealth and social welfare of the community. Some of these vested interests have attacked research facilities and

material in the past, and we would be naïve to assume that no such attacks would occur in future."

Kent's concerns, says Corbett, are addressed in the legislation. That's because personal research and teaching materials, and also archival materials donated to the

university are not "FOIPPable." There are normally legal agreements governing the use of and access to donated materials and they are exempt from the legislation.

"The Act is to be used as a matter of last resort," says Corbett, after all other avenues for access to information have been exhausted. Therefore a student, or member of the public, cannot access a professor's materials or notes through FOIPP. The professor may very well share the information willingly, but "that's their business," says Corbett.

"FOIPP won't change that." FOIPP as it pertains to universities hasn't been tested in Alberta, but B.C. and Saskatchewan have similar legislation covering post-secondary institutions. Like other post-secondary fund-raisers in Alberta, Mallabone wants to see changes to FOIPP before it takes effect for universities. "The University of Alberta supports the principles of FOIPP but the legislators are not aware of the dramatic impact of the Act on this sector," he says. If the U of A had to cease its practice of conducting related research on major gift

prospects during its current fund-raising campaign, Mallabone says approximately \$74 million of the \$130 million raised to date would not have been raised. Furthermore, the director of development estimates the projected opportunity costs to

the university over the next decade could be as high as \$500 million. Ontario universities are exempt from similar legislation putting us at a distinct competitive disadvantage, he says.

A university submission to the provincial government has asked for several changes to FOIPP, two relating to alumni relations and fund-raising. First, grandfathering of the current alumni list up to Jan. 1999. New processes could be put in place for

alumni graduating after that date. And secondly, amending FOIPP to allow the collection and use of personal information obtained from publicly available sources, reliable first-hand sources and public events.

While Mallabone says fund-raisers have received a sympathetic ear from Iris Evans, municipal affairs minister in charge of the charities act, the clock is still ticking towards Jan. 4, 1999. ■

The five fundamental principles of FOIPP are

- 1 To allow access to the non-personal records in the custody or control of a public body, with only limited and specific exceptions;
- 2 To control the collection, use and disclosure of personal information collected by a public body
- 3 To allow people access to information about themselves held by a public body, with limited and specific exceptions
- 4 To allow individuals the right to request corrections to their personal information about themselves held by a public body
- 5 To provide an independent review of decisions made by a public body under the legislation.

» quick » facts

Alberta's nursing architect

Third in a special 90th Anniversary series profiling outstanding U of A professors: Shirley Stinson (b. 1929)

By Geoff McMaster

When Dr. Shirley Stinson was a teenager in Arlee, Saskatchewan in the early '40s, a nursing career was the furthest thing from her mind. Her hero in those days was the brilliant architect Frank Lloyd Wright, and she dreamed of someday heading to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to follow his example.

Fortunately for Canadian nursing, Stinson's life never took that course, and yet Wright has, in a sense, remained the beacon for her career. Stinson has been described as "the architect of nursing research," not only in Alberta, but across the country. When she is asked what quality best describes her contribution to the profession, she answers with conviction: "vision."

"I do love design," she says, "whether it's social or academic, or (applied to) buildings, the principles are the same. Frank Lloyd Wright made structures fit the environment—that is the essence of what I was trying to do." And so Stinson decided early in her career to devote her talent to administration, to laying the groundwork for strong nursing research, rather than becoming what she calls "an ace, capital-r' researcher" herself.

Stinson received her BSc in nursing from the University of Alberta in 1953, then worked for a time as a public health nurse in rural Alberta. In 1958 she received her master's in nursing service administration from the University of Minnesota, and in 1969 her doctorate in higher education in nursing from Columbia. She returned to teach at the University of Alberta, the first nurse west of Winnipeg to hold a doctorate.

"Many people didn't know nurses did research," especially in the mid-'70s, says Dr. Helen Mussallen, former executive director of the Canadian Nurses Association. Stinson encouraged people to see nursing as both a sophisticated practice and legitimate field of research, not merely a service secondary to medicine. Mainly because of her leadership, the University

of Alberta launched a nursing masters program in 1975 and a doctoral program in 1991.

However Stinson's most impressive talent, say colleagues, is an ability to forge lasting connections around the world, consulting for countries as far away as Israel and Colombia. At a time when no solid international nursing network existed, she organized the first International Nursing Research Conference in North America, held in Edmonton in 1986 and hosting more than 700 registrants from 38 countries. Stinson still gets calls in the middle of the night from people around the world seeking advice or simply tracking down a phone number.

"She is, of all the professionals I know in our field, the networker par excellence," says Ginette Rodger, president-elect of the Canadian Nurses' Association. Stinson tapped her network to launch "Operation Bootstrap," pressuring the Medical Research Council to support nursing research and develop doctoral programs across Canada. She also served as president elect and president of the Canadian Nurses' Association from 1978 to 1982.

Closer to home, however, it was as instigator and first chair of the Alberta Foundation for Nursing Research (AFNR) that Stinson made her biggest impact on the profession in this province. In the late '70s, she lobbied tirelessly to secure for nursing a small slice of funding from the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research.

"At some point far into the future," she told government officials, "we may be in a position to secure private funding for nursing research. In the meantime, our medical colleagues, who were given some \$300 million in Heritage funding, are not being asked to sell muffins, are they? And we should not be asked to do so either."

But convincing the government to hand over Heritage dollars was not easy, especially since nurses were far from popular at the time. There had been sev-



Dr. Shirley Stinson

eral nurses' strikes, and the government was under pressure to show a firm hand in dealing with the unrest. But Stinson and other nursing leaders inundated then premier, Peter Lougheed, with letters of outrage. In the end, the government relented; \$1 million was set aside for nursing research, the first fund of its kind in the Western world.

Stinson held the chair of the foundation from 1982 until 1988, encouraging practicing nurses to explore research projects directly related to their field work. "I think the foundation gave the entire nursing profession in Alberta a higher profile," says Catherine Gordey, a former

policy analyst for Alberta Technology, Research and Telecommunications. "It confirmed that nurses are masters in their own right, and not anybody's servants."

In 1990, Stinson won the Jeanne Mance Award, the highest nursing award in Canada for a lifetime of outstanding contributions to the profession at the national level. Though officially retired since 1993, she has hardly slowed her pace. Her latest cause is the prevention of heart attacks and strokes through valid blood pressure assessment. She also continues to work the phones on behalf of international nursing. ■

Free trade agreements really "investor's rights agreements"

Three hundred fifty at the U of A listen in to Noam Chomsky speaking in Calgary

By Lee Elliott

When a U.S. company can sue the Government of Canada and force it to back down on policy designed to protect the health of Canadians, you know there's a new, new world order, according to renowned MIT linguist and social commentator Noam Chomsky.

Speaking at the U of C September 24—and brought to the U of A via satellite by the Parkland Institute—Chomsky said the new order is characterized by institutions accountable to no one, except maybe large transnational corporations. These institutions include the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, and trading structures like the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The Canadian example involved the U.S. Ethyl Corporation, which filed a lawsuit last April against the federal government under the provisions of NAFTA. The corporation sought restitution of \$251 million US after parliament passed a bill to ban import of one of its products, MMT, a toxic manganese compound added to

gasoline. Chomsky said MMT is an "additive banned in most countries ... and not used in the U.S."

Yet the U.S. company was successful in forcing the Canadian government to lift the ban and received \$13 million from government coffers as settlement.

"These new arrangements intend to give corporations the rights of states," said Chomsky. Previously, only states could sue other states. "The idea is ... to undermine democratic options that might be open to citizens."

The power of these institutions, largely led by the U.S. and its "junior partner, Great Britain," has made some people very rich, said Chomsky. But it's also been responsible for increasing poverty. Chomsky describes it as the "fairy tale economy." In the U.S., the top one per cent of households owns half of the stock market. The next 10 per cent own the rest. The remaining population has seen its net worth decline. Eighty per cent of families work a lot more hours for less, said Chomsky, and income per capita in the U.S. is below the OECD average. "But it is a fairy tale for some."

At the top of the pile, "there's been an astronomical increase in capital flows, mostly very short term," said Chomsky. This capital flow is unrelated to the real economy, he said. "Eighty per cent makes a round trip in a week or less, often hours or minutes." Back in the 70s, the figures were reversed.

This capital is also based extensively on borrowing, he said. "This highly leveraged character of investments... is accelerating the irrelevancy of markets ... and there have been increasing financial crises."

At the same time, "there's been a sustained assault on free markets," he said, "free markets for the poor, something else for the rich." During the Reagan years, government protection for U.S. business was essentially doubled, he said, and bailouts increased. Imports like Mexican tomatoes were banned when consumers showed a preference for them over Florida tomatoes. "Radical interference with free trade is standard when conventional methods fail," said Chomsky.

The effect on Third World countries has been devastating, he said. In general, trade is now designed so beneficiaries of wealth are not the people of the region it comes from. "The huge profits must flow primarily to the United States, or its junior partner Britain". This means controlling areas with wealth is critical for the U.S., said Chomsky. Recent missile attacks in Afghanistan and Sudan had less to do with any threat to the U.S. posed by the embassy bombing in Africa than with securing oil wealth in the Gulf region, he said.

The agreements making this possible are "investor's rights agreements, not free trade agreements," said Chomsky. And there's another one coming. The MAI (Multilateral Agreement on Investment) is being arranged behind closed doors, and Canada is one of the few countries where voices are heard speaking against it. Yet only activism will "dissolve these centres of unaccountable power," he said. You get rid of them the "same way you got rid of kings and slavery and all kinds of other horrible things throughout history." ■

"Dances with Wolves R [not] Us"

Images of Indian-ness: Popular Culture, Native Realities

By Dr. Patricia A. McCormack, School of Native Studies

Dances with Wolves is a popular movie that purports to portray first contacts between Euro-Americans, in the person of a U.S. army officer, and Indians of the western Plains—Pawnees and Sioux. This movie, with its epic landscapes, beautiful Indians, personal heroism, and new age hero, evoked in viewers the dream of seeing the pristine world of Aboriginal or Native people. The movie makers created these evocative images by recreating and playing upon images of Indian-ness that are old indeed. Within this single film we see "bad" and "good" Indians all living in a western Eden, and all doomed by the inevitable expansion of European civilization. On one level, *Dances with Wolves* works precisely because stereotypes are at work.

The persistence of these stereotypes makes it difficult for non-Natives to consider Native peoples as modern peoples. Sometimes they make it difficult even for Native people themselves to disentangle issues of their own identities from the pervasive stereotypes about Indian-ness.

It is ironic that most North Americans know that Native people today—most Native people—aren't like those people of the old days—though they may not know that Native people weren't necessarily like that in the old days either. Horses became associated with some Native Americans only a few centuries ago, and the majority of Native peoples on this continent never acquired them. But to the contemporary general public, the image of Native Americans is indelibly linked to horses. They find it difficult to conceive of Native Americans, or "Indians," being the real thing if they spend most of their lives working in

offices, for example, or driving trucks, or teaching school—doing a number of other things that never involve a horse, or feathers, or beads.

But although we know Indian cultures have changed greatly, this image of Indian-ness has resisted change. To assist in the classroom, I have begun to develop a teaching collection about stereotypes. Toys are the most obvious category. Children's toys are serious business. They are an important vehicle for the transmission of images of Indian-ness, and the popular culture about Indians, from one generation to another. Children learn about "Indians" from an astonishingly early age, through things they see and the toys they play with. The classic example is that of cowboys and Indians, who are always posed as total opposites, usually fighting each other. Not just any kind of "Indian" will do. They are always Plains Indians, typically Sioux—the Indians of *Dances with Wolves*, the classic Indians of the stereotype.

A recent counterpoint in the toy department to the heavy emphasis on the Plains stereotype is the enormous amount of Pocahontas material, inspired by the recent Disney movie. The Powhatan, Pocahontas' people, lived on the east coast. They supported themselves mostly by farming, with some hunting and picking of wild plants. One

of my favorite toys is a Pocahontas sunflower seed planting kit, which is actually a good representation of genuine Native cultures. Historically, most Native peoples of North America supported themselves primarily by agriculture, not by hunting. Yet the Pocahontas toys do

not pose a serious challenge to the dominant stereotype of the plains hunter, in part because they are marketed primarily to little girls, whose activities and interests tend to be marginalized when compared to those of boys.

The negative and positive stereotypes found in the toys all distort the reality of Native peoples. Stereotypes about Indian-ness create enormous expectations that most people simply cannot meet—nor should they have to. Yet the stereotypes, which are based in images of Indian-ness that were wrong even in the 19th century still influence how people regard Natives today.

If the stereotype is wrong, what is right? In particular, what does it mean to be a modern Native person? The very term "modern" is a problematic one, in that "modernity" has been defined from a decidedly European slant. Native people who "became modern" were expected to give up ways of life that Europeans defined as "primitive" and adopt instead European ways of life, in a process called assimilation. But Indians who did change their former

In Native Studies, we reject the European definition of modernity. Moving beyond the stereotypes and defining what is still essential to the identities of Native peoples and their communities is not a simple task.

ways of making a living, organizing their communities, and substituting imported objects for their previous material culture were often seen as relinquishing that distinctive group of traits that made them distinctive Native peoples.

In Native Studies, we reject the European definition of modernity. Moving beyond the stereotypes and defining what is still essential to the identities of Native peoples and their communities is not a simple task. Identity is not necessarily visible, nor is it particularly intuitive, which is one reason for the continued popularity of Indian stereotypes—they are easy, even mindless. To move past them requires more complex analysis and a determination to challenge the "common sense" of popular culture.

Considering Native identities in terms of the ways that Native peoples live and think of themselves is the key. For example, we can turn the cowboys and Indians stereotype on its head by looking at Indian cowboys. Many Native people became successful ranchers and cowboys in both Canada and the U.S. Yet being a cowboy didn't alter their Native identities. For instance, a Blackfoot cowboy still speaks Blackfoot, uses his horses and cattle to support his traditional obligations within the Blackfoot social community, and attends sweats and sundances. While he may look like all the other cowboys of the Fort Macleod area, he is still culturally distinctive—and modern. ■

Dr. Patricia A. McCormack presented a public lecture on this topic at Super Saturday September 26.

New drug targets hamburger disease in children

By Geoff McMaster

With outbreaks of E. coli reaching alarm levels throughout North America this summer, it's a relief to know a treatment for the nasty bacteria may be just around the corner.

The drug, called Synsorb Pk, is now in third-phase clinical trials at University Hospital and has so far shown promising results, says Dr. Glen Armstrong of the department of medical microbiology and immunology. Second-phase results,

while inconclusive, demonstrated improvement in about 40 per cent of those treated, he says.

"Right now there's absolutely no treatment for this illness. Antibiotics are not recommended because, depending on who you believe, they have either no effect whatsoever, or may increase complications following infection." Without treatment, says Armstrong, about 10 per cent of infected children will develop

severe problems such as renal failure or neurological dysfunction or kidney disease. Some cases can even be fatal.

Synsorb Pk is primarily targeted at young children, who are at greatest risk for contracting "hamburger disease" because of weaker immune systems and higher receptivity to the E. coli bacteria. The drug, essentially a combination of fine sand (silicon dioxide or powdered glass) and sugar, works by chemically binding to the toxin and flushing it out of the body.

"We attach the sugar molecules, which are the receptors for the toxin, to the surface of the particles. Any toxin that comes into contact with it will bind very tightly and be absorbed," he says. "It's kind of like a molecular lobster trap; the receptors are the bait—it gets in there but can't get back out again."

Because of its simplicity, Synsorb Pk is thought to be completely free of side effects, no matter how much is ingested. "The sugar is not toxic at all and neither is the sand, so we really didn't anticipate any safety issues or adverse reactions."

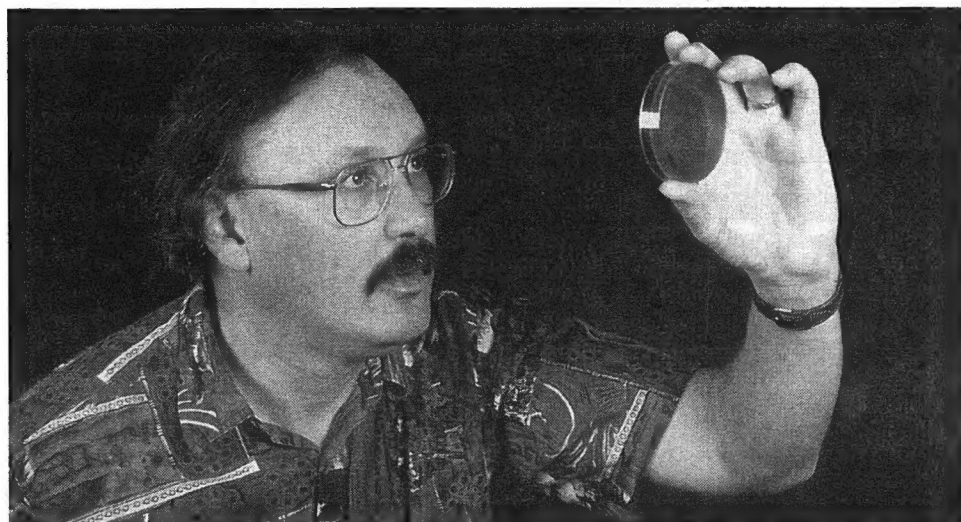
The drug's design is based on Dr. Ray Lemieux's pioneering research on synthetic sugars called oligosaccharides,

which can be manipulated to bind to toxic proteins. For the E. coli study, Armstrong had a good deal of support from carbohydrate chemists Drs. Ole Hindsgaul, Monica Palcic, and Dave Bundle.

"In our lab we identify the receptors that toxins recognize on host tissues, and then we take that information to Ole, Dave and Monica," says Armstrong. "They come up with ways to synthesize these molecules in sufficient quantities to make Synsorb."

In the course of clinical trials, Armstrong and his colleagues have already been working on ways to make Synsorb Pk effective in more than 40 per cent of the infected population. "Our understanding of the way the organism causes infection is increasing as we're doing the study," says Armstrong. "Now we have some ideas as to how to improve the drug."

Clinical trials have so far been limited to Alberta, but since Synsorb Biotech Inc. (the company marketing the drug) has expanded into the U.S. and Argentina, Armstrong and his team will be able to conduct trials in those countries as well. If all goes as planned, Synsorb Pk should be on the market before the end of 1999. ■



Dr. Glen Armstrong

Richard Siemens

Hard lessons in *Grapes of Wrath* still timely

Studio Theatre production features cast of 41

By Kathy Classen

Kevin Sutley first discovered Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* only five years ago—but the Joad family has stuck with him ever since. Sutley, a master of fine arts directing candidate in the U of A's Department of Drama, chose the Frank Galati adaptation of the epic drama for his thesis show. The story, which follows the Joad's trek across America in search of a better life, runs in the Timms Centre for the Arts October 1–10, 1998.

Sutley's choice came from a love of the story and its characters, and recognition of the play's relevance to today's audience: "I love the book—the story—the politics of it—but it's the injustice of it all that really affects me." Sutley comes from a working class background, and grew up in conservative central Alberta, so he identifies easily with the Joads and their choices: "These are good, good people—with good hearts, but they're at the bottom of the ladder and it's a hard place to be." Parallels with today's world are evident everywhere to Sutley: "I think the play is still incredibly meaningful—we have governments acting as strike breakers, staff at every level overworked and taken for granted. We live in a really cynical world, but there's no one you can see to blame."

Steinbeck's characters start their journey believing family is central and sacred, but they are led to a greater discovery: "The family's not the most important thing in the end: it's bigger—it's people, it's life," Sutley says. "We try to surround ourselves with a few human beings we can feel connected to, but we have to go beyond that and really look at other people." His research revealed early criticism of the Steinbeck piece citing racism in the all white character list; Sutley's production has the narrators cast as an immigrant Chinese family. Their journey parallels that of the Joads and underscores the history of oppression of migrant workers, which included Chinese, Japanese, Hindus, Sikhs and Mexicans.

A highly realistic play, performed on a proscenium stage to a fairly traditional theatre audience, is a departure of sorts for Sutley. "The kind of show I like is less traditional, less conventional," he admits. Still, the director can see the appeal of realism to



Linda Huffman plays Ma Joad, Jimmy Hodges plays Tom Joad.

the performers: "I totally understand why actors love realism—it's so full emotionally." His production, supported by the great technical resources and personnel available to him at the Timms, includes "a real truck, rain, real grain, and a river that runs in a trench across the stage. We never let you forget it's on stage," says Sutley.

In fact, Sutley has assumed a huge challenge for this, his final directing project at the University of Alberta. Not only are the technical requirements of the production "a little scary," but Sutley juggles the challenges of a 41 member cast—including two preteens—many of them volunteers. One cast member cheerfully said her character should have a dog, and proceeded to provide the live prop. Lulu is now a much-loved member of the ensemble.

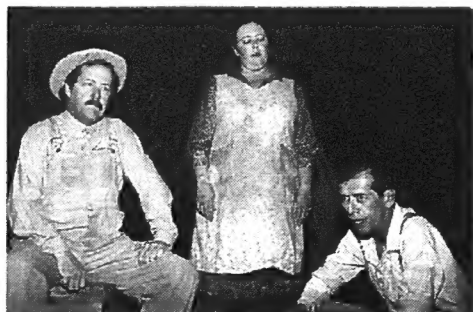
Sutley is aware of the rare opportunity the show's scale affords him; the Broadway production of *The Grapes of Wrath* boasted a production budget of \$1.5 million. Few theatres can afford to mount such a work these days, and Sutley knows it will be a long time before he directs a cast of 40 plus again. Of his own journey at the U of A, Sutley says, "It's been a great two years. I loved the academic challenge." And the discoveries he has made pulling together this show will inform future projects, he says.

But for now, he's looking forward to completing the written portion of his thesis and then collapsing on a beach in Mexico.

Grapes of Wrath; October 1–10, Timms Centre for the Arts, University of Alberta campus. Phone 492-2495 for ticket information. ■



John Kirkpatrick, Robert Corness, Adam Joe, Jimmy Hodges



Dale Wilson (Pa Joad), Linda Huffman (Ma Joad), and Robert Corness (Uncle Joad)

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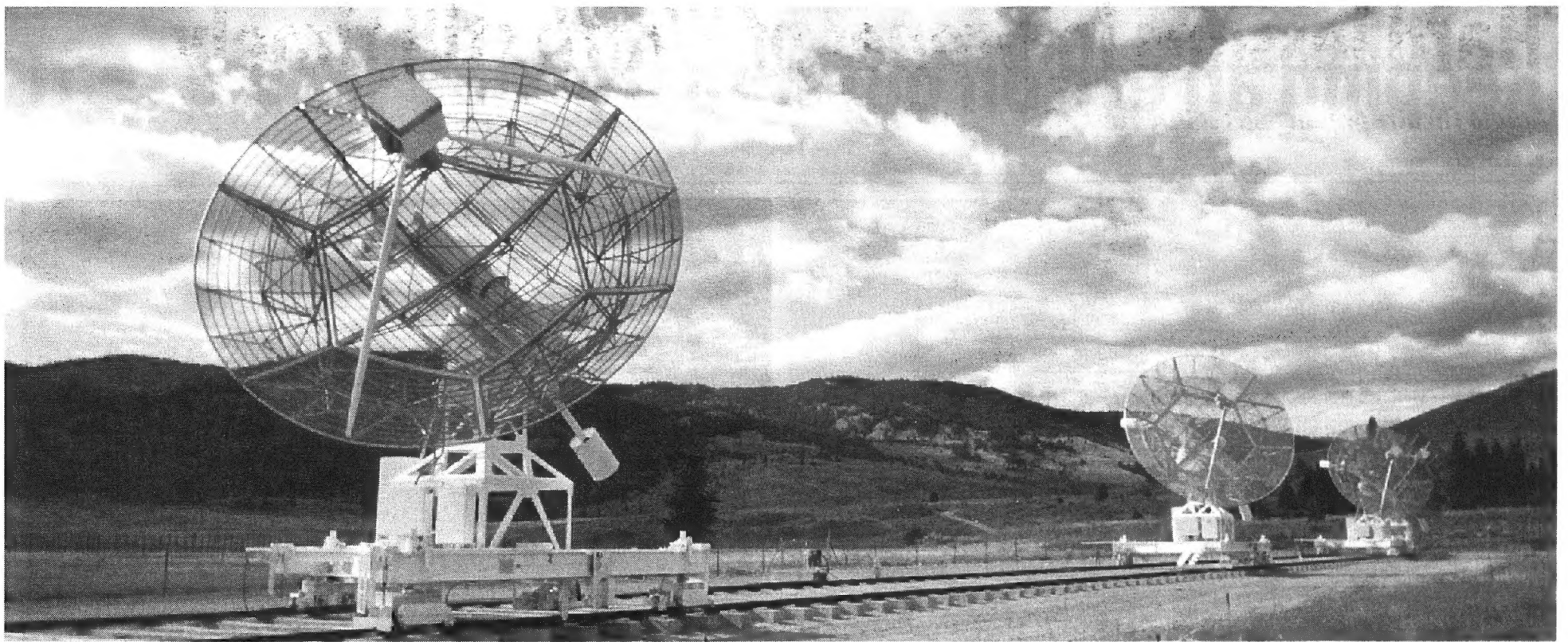
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Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory near Penticton

The truth is out there...

By Roger Armstrong

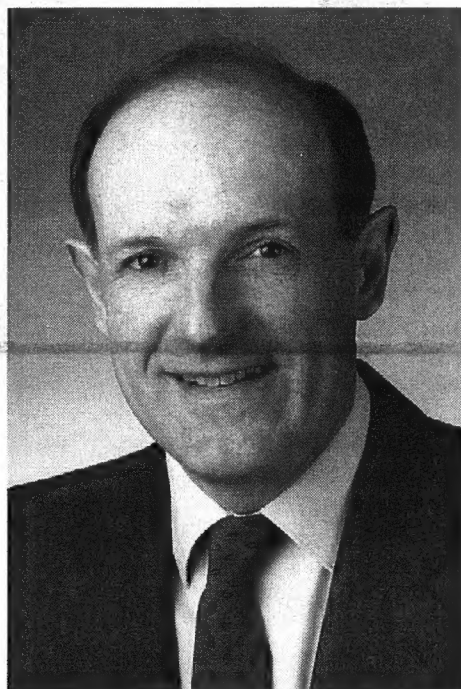
Humans have been observing the sky and looking to it for answers since antiquity, but we've been missing most of the information it contains. "There is a lot more to the universe than what we can see with our eyes," says electrical and computing engineering professor, Dr. Dave Routledge, "and some of it is potentially dangerous."

Routledge works with a National Research Council radio telescope at the Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory (DRAO) located near Penticton, B.C. He co-supervises graduate students who spend most of their time at the facility and also helps to interpret the data gathered there.

DRAO was put together on a shoestring budget. "They found some of [the dishes] in people's backyards. It's the ultimate cheap telescope. They bought them all cut to ribbons and welded them back together," says Routledge. The telescope started with two dishes and now has seven, nine-metre dishes working together to observe the stars.

It's a symbiotic relationship between the University of Alberta and DRAO. "Our graduate students work with the staff, engineers, technicians and scientists

there to create new designs which are built into the telescope. The telescope is then offered to everybody around the world as a Canadian national facility," says



Dr. Dave Routledge

Routledge. "Our graduate students re-engineer and improve the power and versatility of the DRAO radio telescope, and in return we are able to attract the brightest and best graduate students out there to work at a world-class research facility."

Although Routledge is a professor of electrical engineering, his passion has always been astronomy. He is currently observing atomic hydrogen interacting with the remnants of a supernova (that's a star that has exploded). With a smile, he says, "if you asked me to do that experiment in the laboratory, I couldn't do it. A: I can't get funding for a 30,000 year explosion and B: I can't get things to occur on this scale in the lab."

"There are phenomena we are seeing that have never been seen before by people," says Routledge. For example, a University of Calgary graduate student, Magdalen Normandeau, was mapping out a small section of the sky, only a few degrees in width, and two major discoveries came out of her observations. First, she observed a cosmic chimney, which occurs when young stars within the galactic disc punch material perpendicularly out of the galactic disc. Second, a giant lens type

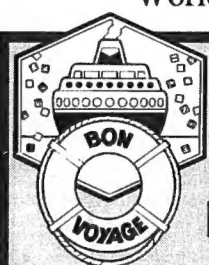
structure made up of magneto-active ionized gases was discovered. "It was visible only because of its Faraday rotation properties and the new modifications of the telescope," says Routledge.

By observing these phenomena Routledge and his colleagues hope not only to learn how stars and interstellar material interact, but to use this new understanding here on earth. "We are going to see phenomena that could conceivably be brought back home. New phenomena that we can then engineer into new devices," says Routledge.

DRAO has been under threat of shut-down for years, but in 1997 it was announced that plans to close the facility by 2001 had been dropped. The information collected at DRAO is the major part of the Canadian Galactic Plane Survey (CGPS) and will provide research material for years to come. "Ten years from now there could be a graduate student from Argentina who discovers a phenomenon that had been overlooked by all the other investigators," says Routledge. It is not known what the CGPS data may contain... but the truth is out there—all we need to do is observe. ■

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Keeping an eye on outer space

By Geoff McMaster

When the Hubble Space Telescope was launched into orbit in 1990, the pictures it sent home were out of focus. There were "spherical aberrations" in its mirrors, and the reflected images were of little use to astronomers. One of the most ambitious scientific endeavors in history appeared to be a failure of cosmic proportions.

Back on earth all hell broke loose. *Newsweek* ran a cover story entitled "Star Crossed: NASA's \$1.5 billion blunder." A *Los Angeles Times* cartoon featured the telescope pointed at God, who implored with outstretched hand, "no pictures please." And in a heated debate on Capital Hill, one senator waved a copy of Dr. Robert Smith's book, *The Space Telescope*, at the head of NASA demanding an explanation.

Because he had chronicled every step of the Hubble project, Smith fast became the undisputed authority on the growing pains of the most complex spacecraft ever built. "That's a bit unusual for a historian, I suspect, to get that kind of quick reflex," says Smith, the new head of the history and classics department, fresh from the space history chair at the Smithsonian Institution.

The Space Telescope has seen two editions and several printings since its release in 1989, and has sold between 12,000 and 15,000 copies. In the academic world, those are runaway best-seller numbers, a reflection of the Hubble's grip on the popular imagination.

After the notorious mirrors were repaired in 1993, the telescope finally showed astronomers, and everyone else, the glossy images they'd been expecting to see. Good news for

- Named after astronomer Edwin Hubble, the Hubble Space Telescope allows astronomers to see clearly into space without interference from the earth's atmosphere. It was dreamt of in the '40s, planned in the '70s, built in the '80s and launched in the '90s. The original launch was scheduled for 1986 but was delayed because of the explosion of the Space Shuttle *Challenger*.
- The Hubble project is a co-operative program of the European Space Agency (ESA) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).
- The telescope runs on solar power and is controlled from Greenbelt, Md. using radio signals. Its aim is so accurate it could hit a dime with a laser beam from a distance of 480 km.

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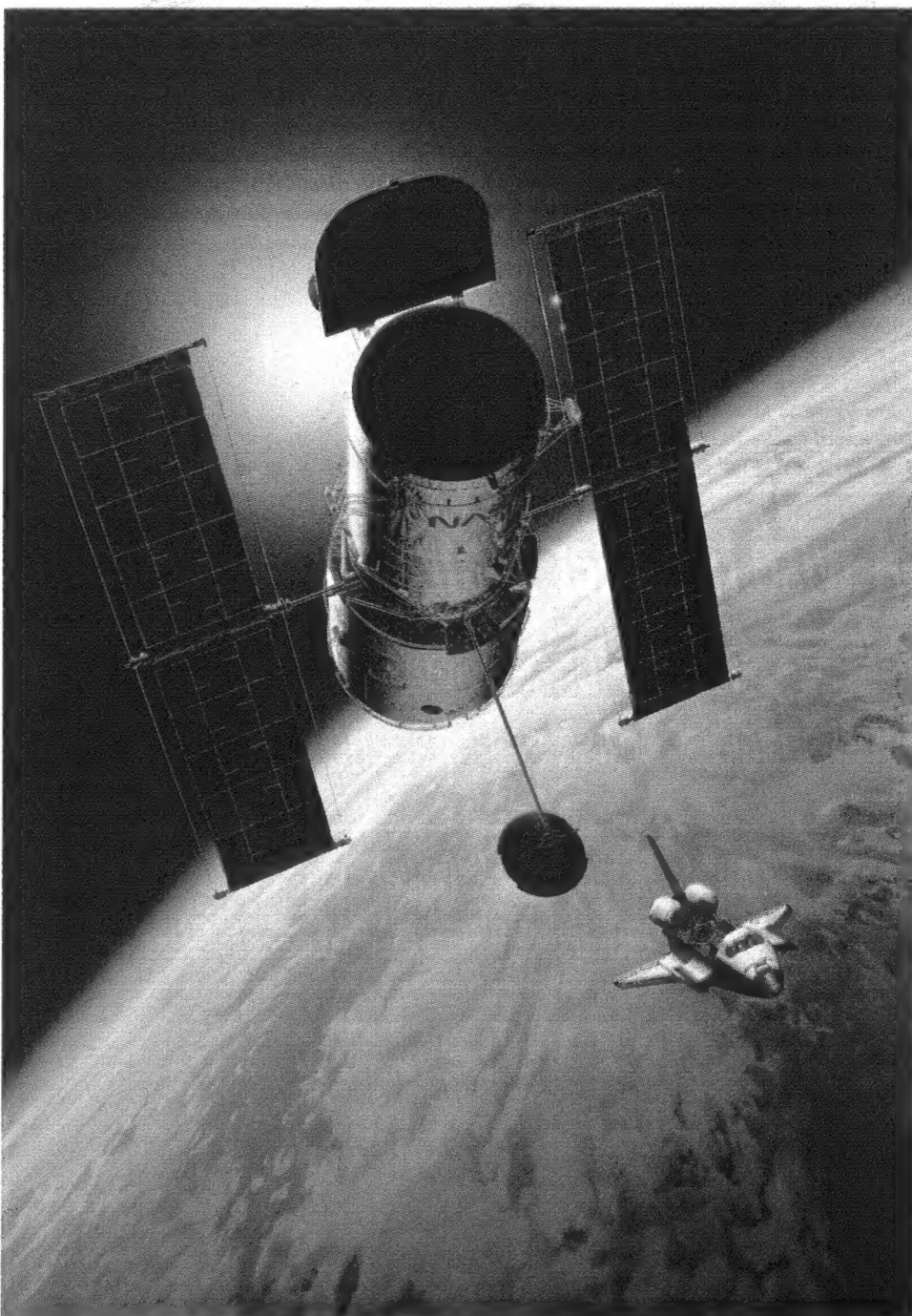
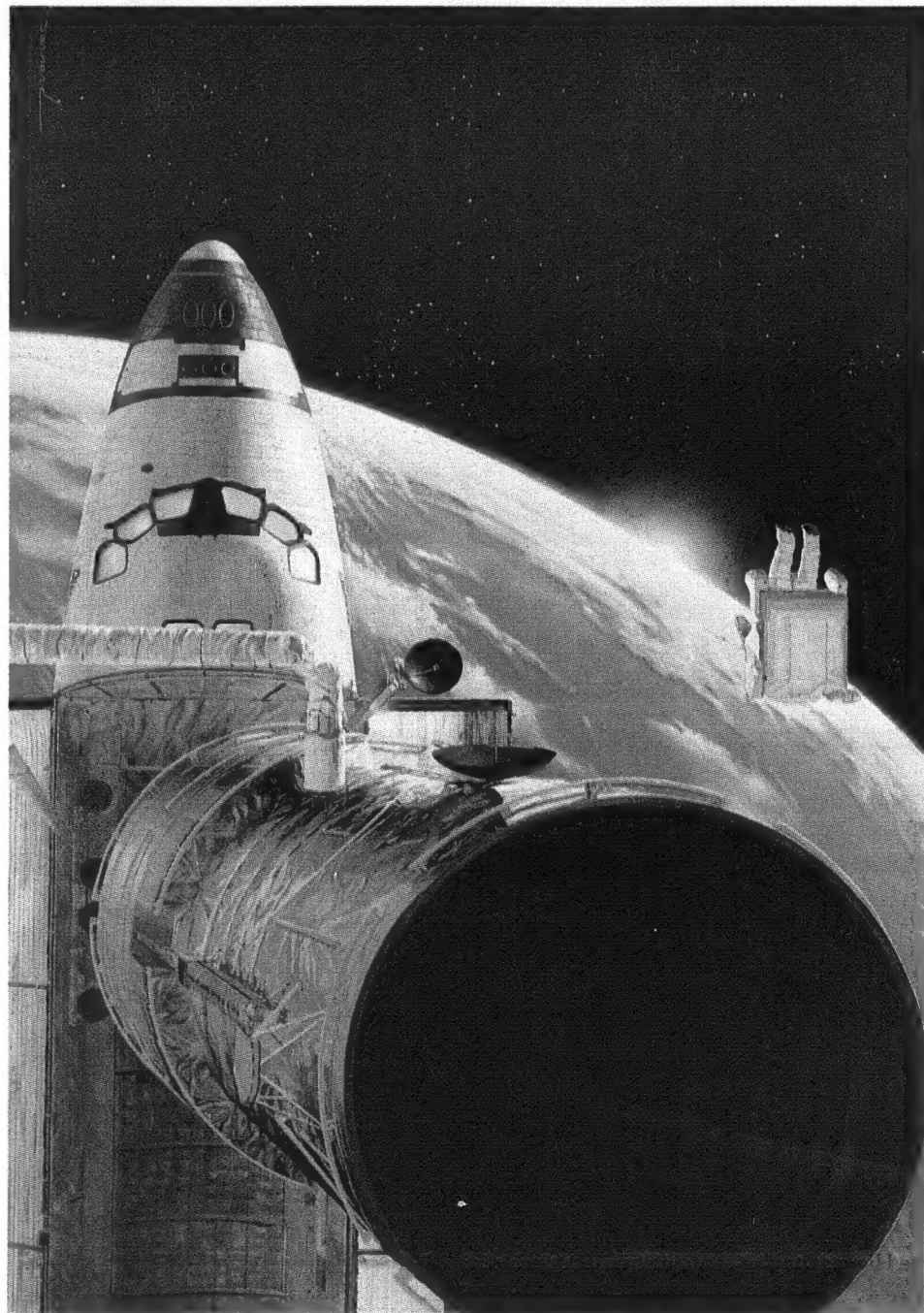
Smith, since he's planning a second volume on the Hubble's life in orbit, outlining the social impact of its findings back on terra firma.

Smith's interest as a historian of 19th and 20th century science and technology is not so much in the hard science as in how such projects come about, sometimes called "the new techno-politics." In other words, what political forces propel such hugely expensive spacecraft into orbit? How does the need to lobby politicians and sell space exploration

to the public influence the pursuit of scientific knowledge? And why does one project, such as the Hubble, appear to

... the telescope was
an easy sell for one
reason — it came
with pictures.

—Dr. Robert Smith



deliver more bang for the buck than another?

"Politics plays a very large part in this," Smith says. "[The Hubble] was very attractive for a number of reasons in the 1970s. At that point the U.S. government was looking to boost spending on basic scientific research." The Space Shuttle was also in the planning stages and "it made no sense to build a shuttle unless you were going to put things in it."

But perhaps most important, he says, the telescope was an easy sell for one reason — it came with pictures.

"If taxpayers have provided all this money for this project, they want to see the payoff. The Hubble in the end has been exceptionally successful at that. Lots of its images have ended up on the front pages of newspapers, news magazines, scientific magazines—some of them are probably the most famous images of the late 20th century."

Of course, in the age of mass media, when television has become the ultimate instrument of political power, selling your research is much easier if you can package it in a sound bite. Explaining projects such as the Superconducting Supercollider (a

high-energy particle accelerator in Texas cancelled after siphoning more than \$2.5 billion from American coffers) is virtually impossible in less than two minutes. Not so with the Hubble, says Smith.

"When people in the 1970s were talking about the Hubble telescope, they were talking in terms that were almost immediately obvious to people, even if they were advisors to the president." President Gerald Ford in fact became a huge fan of the telescope, says Smith, because "they were able to explain it to him in short order. He didn't need a three hour briefing to understand why it was worthwhile."

Smith has spent a good 15 years watching space history unfold from

his front row seat at the Smithsonian. So why has he made the Canadian west his new home?

"It's the opportunity to work with students more than I'd been able to at the Smithsonian," he says. "I really enjoy the interaction with both undergraduate and graduate students." ■



The race for inner space

By Geoff McMaster

Some scientists call it the "God particle." It's never been seen, and no one's sure if it even exists, but everyone in the world of particle physics is looking for it, says Dr. Jim Pinfold, director of the U of A's Centre for Subatomic Research. And should some lucky few find it, the discovery will likely mean a Nobel Prize.

What they're looking for is called the Higgs boson. "It's like smoke from a fire," says Pinfold. When you see the smoke, you know there's fire." When you see the Higgs, you know you're on to the force that brings all matter into being.

The Higgs boson is perhaps the greatest of the grails waiting to be discovered

when the \$5 billion Large Hadron Collider (LHC) switches on in 2005, says Pinfold. He's one of thousands of scientists around the globe working on the world's highest energy accelerator, located at the European Laboratory for Particle Physics (CERN) near Geneva.

At the U of A, physicists are working on a small part of a \$500 million detector called ATLAS that will help scientists see the Higgs. They're constructing 150 tons of parts for the detector, which is similar in some ways to a microscope, says Pinfold, "enabling us to peer deep into matter to discern particles as small as quarks that comprise the protons and neutrons that make up everyday matter."

The goal of the massive underground accelerator at CERN, 26 km in circumference, is to simulate in miniature the Big Bang scientists believe created the universe. With temperatures reaching a sweltering 10^{16} (10 million billion) degrees, scientists are hoping particles such as the Higgs will reveal themselves.

To collect the information generated by the mini-big bang, the U of A is develop-

ing a supercomputer called THOR, a prototype of the computer that will eventually run ATLAS. Pending approval, the U of A is also set to lead an experiment involving scientists from the U.S., Italy, Switzerland and Britain to find exotic particles with unusual magnetic charges.

While \$5 billion may seem like a high price to pay for a particle playground, what we can learn from "the race for inner space" is immeasurable, says Pinfold, who is leading the U of A team working on a piece of the ATLAS detector.

"This curiosity-driven research takes you to places you cannot imagine you'd ever be. When you've got all these huge detectors working at incredible speeds, you start to push the envelope on technology."

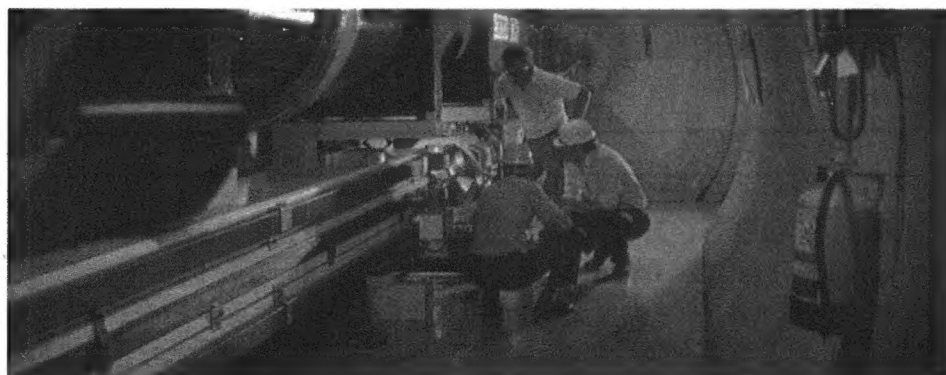
Pinfold says Canadian representation in general at CERN may look small on the

ledger sheet, with total contributions in the range of \$30 million, but the impact of Canadian scientists is in fact much greater.

"Canadians always punch harder than their weight, and seem to be more concentrated on the task. And they seem to work in critical masses so you don't have every-

- **Higgs boson** – named after physicist Peter Higgs in the 1960s, a particle believed to correspond to the Higgs field, a force responsible for giving all particles mass. It's called a boson because it doesn't spin.
- **Large Hadron Collider** – the world's largest particle accelerator. Like a time machine, it will simulate conditions after the Big Bang by colliding particles in huge vacuum tunnels.
- **quarks** – the smallest known particles of matter believed to make up protons and neutrons.
- **ATLAS** – a detector, similar to a microscope, that will help scientists see for the first time particles like the Higgs boson.
- **THOR** – a supercomputer developed at the U of A to simulate the response of ATLAS and serve as its prototype.

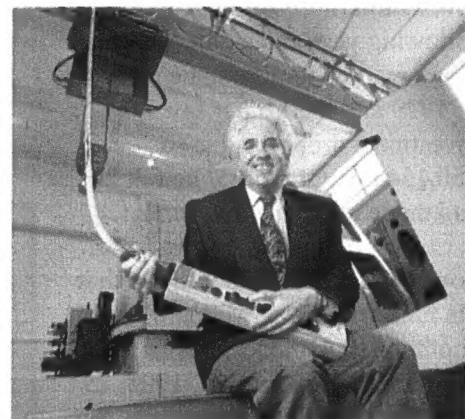
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Inside CERN

body wandering off in every direction. It's a small community but a very good community, and very well respected."

So the race for inner space is on, and particle aficionados like Pinfold can hardly wait to get there. "ATLAS is a no-lose situation," he says. "No matter what it finds, you've made a discovery." If the Higgs turns out to be a red herring, scientists will know there's "something highly wrong with our standard theory." ■



Dr. Jim Pinfold



Right: A hallway at CERN

Below: An aerial shot of CERN, near Geneva



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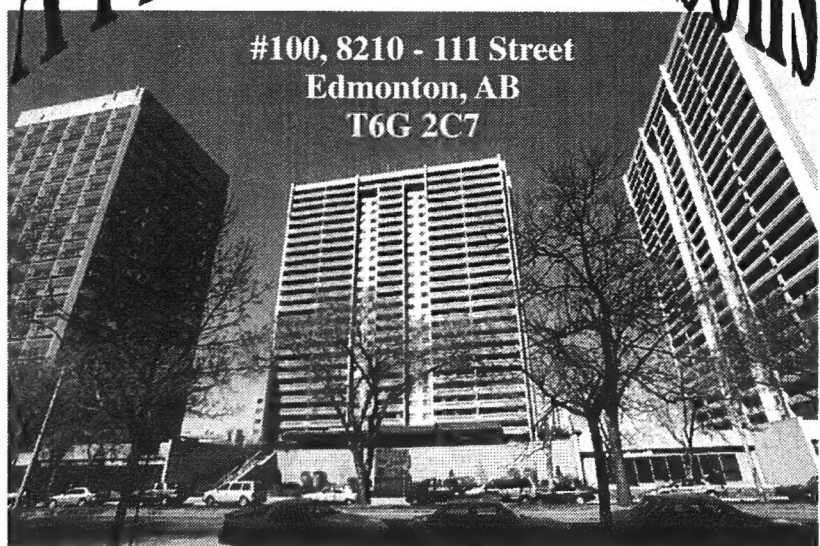
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Dr. Donald Heth (left) with Dr. Dan Montello and the NFB crew

NFB documents psychology of getting lost

By Geoff McMaster

What's the first thing you do when you realize you're lost? Panic? Look for a landmark, run in circles, maybe check your watch? It's a crucial question for psychologist Dr. Ed Cornell, who studies lost-person behavior.

It's also a crucial question for search and rescue teams, who need to accurately predict what poor lost souls will do next. For that reason, Cornell's research will form part of a comprehensive National Film Board documentary on search and rescue operations.

"[The documentary's] hook is the connection between basic research and what the search managers do finding lost persons," says Cornell. "They look at what the effects of the whole process are on the lost person and the family. So they go from the emotional grass roots, to the professionals out there ground-pounding, to the kinds of tools that we at the university provide for them to use."

The documentary will be a cross-country exposition of Canada's search and rescue efforts, says Cornell. "Canada has

really been progressive—maybe because of our weather conditions—and [the NFB] wants to chronicle that."

A film crew landed briefly on campus last week to interview Cornell along with Dr. Donald Heth (who constructs computer models of geographic locations), and Dr. Dan Montello of the University of California at Santa Barbara (an expert on orientation in caves), before they all headed off to a search and rescue conference in Banff.

Award-winning NFB director Teresa MacInnes was also eager to catch footage of a woman Cornell works with who has lost the vestibular function of her inner ear which registers rotation. Such cases can provide important insight into what most of us do when disoriented, says Cornell. And it happens to all of us at some point.

"The experience of being lost is a universal human experience, that is, everybody has been lost," he says. "But it's sort of like a taboo subject—it's very difficult to get people to agree on a definition."

Mexican university looks to U of A for nursing expertise

International program could mean more graduate nursing programs down south

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

As a chill hits the air and frosts the ground, it's not surprising to hear of nurses heading south of the border.

U of A nurses, however, are going way south—to Mexico. The faculty has teamed up with its counterpart at the Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) in Mexico City for faculty development, student and faculty exchange, collaborative research and recruitment.

UNAM dean, Susana Salas Segura, is particularly excited about the partnership to help set up graduate programs at the Mexican School of Nursing and Obstetrics.

"We had a nursing boom about six years ago. Now, these nurses want to study more and get their master's degree," says Salas. Eventually, she hopes a PhD program can also be established. With more than 3,700 nursing students in a university of 250,000, there should be no problem recruiting graduate students at UNAM. And with more nursing faculty with PhDs than any other Canadian university, the U of A is well equipped to share its expertise.

It's an expansion of internationalization efforts for the U of A nursing faculty as well. This is the second partnership with a Spanish-speaking country; a group of nursing students has been going to Guatemala regularly. Associate Dean, Research, Phyllis Giovanetti says this can only add to the enrichment of faculty and students.

"There's no question students benefit immensely from an exchange to a country outside their own. We live in a global world. Our nurses will be dealing with people from other cultures," says Giovanetti.

It will also be an opportunity to look at another health-care system. "We don't work on the assumption that the Canadian health-care system is the best in the world. What about primary (community) care? Our health care begins in the emergency room in the hospital and that's too late," says Giovanetti.

Dean Salas and Professor Rose Maria Cazares were in Edmonton for the formal signing between UNAM and the U of A. This signing follows President Rod Fraser's visit to Mexico earlier this year.



Tina Chang

Second year law students John Mamer, Karen Wyke, Dave Andrews and Professor Ron Wood

New courtroom is all moot

By Geoff McMaster

As any lawyer will tell you, the best way to learn is by doing. That's why moot court is such a vital part of a legal education. Students find out what it's like to put in mind-numbing hours of preparation, brace for battle, and then present a reasoned and persuasive argument to the bench.

"It's a good way to get a taste of the courtroom without having an actual paying client, or someone who could potentially be going to jail," says Christopher Sprysak. He participated in two major moot competitions last year—the Alberta Challenge Cup and a national contest sponsored by Davies Ward and Beck in Toronto. "It's also a tremendous amount of work, especially when you consider that you have four, five or six other classes," says the faculty's gold medal winner for highest grades last year.

The U of A's extensive moot program—which includes international, criminal and constitutional law, as well as aboriginal dispute resolution—owes much to a \$300,000 donation made in 1996 by U of A alumnus Eldon Foote. After graduating with BSc degree in 1945 and a law degree in 1948, Foote went on to establish a successful international business career with ventures in Australia, Hong Kong, Japan and Korea. He has since maintained strong ties with his Alma Matter, and

when he donated his gift two years ago, requested the money be used to beef up the moot program and renovate the court room. The room underwent extensive remodeling this summer, and is once again opened to dispute.

In a typical moot competition, team members have about one month to prepare an initial statement of facts on a given case. They receive the opposition's factum a few weeks later, and soon after find

themselves in front of a panel of judges. It's about as close as law students get to authentic litigation, but hardly the impassioned stuff of television courtroom drama, says Associate Dean of Law Roderick Wood.

"It's competitive, but not emotive—it's very reasoned

and rational, and courtroom antics are simply unacceptable," he says. "The thing about these is they're appellant level moots, so you have three judges. It's not a trial, so you don't have witnesses or anything like that—you're making a legal argument."

Since mooting is generally done by third and fourth-year law students in second term, says Wood, a number of changes were made to the courtroom to make function as a classroom in the fall.

"But we've maintained the basic integrity of the room as a courtroom ... we thought it was essential that it maintain that look and feel." ■



Shaving for dollars

Co-chair dares university to exceed United Way campaign

By Geoff McMaster

What does United Way campaign success look like?

The answer is, shiny and bald. That's because U of A campaign co-chair Dr. Terry Flannigan has agreed to shave off his locks if the university raises \$250,000, surpassing the initial goal by \$25,000.

"I'd like us to be a dollar short, but I think we'll get there," says Flannigan with some trepidation. "But it has to be by Nov 25th—I'm not coming back from retirement to have my head shaved."

Flannigan agreed to pull out the razor after Edmonton Mayor Bill Smith and regional campaign chairman Dr. Robert Westbury said they'd do the same if the city campaign total reached \$10 million. Since the campus is now 61 per cent of the way to its goal, watch for Flannigan's new Kojak look soon.

The campus campaign officially kicks off Oct 3 with the Turkey Trot, but the university has already presented the city with a cheque for \$125,000 on behalf of 135 Merrill Wolfe Leaders (those contributing at least \$600). The U of A Bookstore book fair also raised \$1,100 for the campaign last weekend.

Upcoming events include the Scare Crow and Pumpkin Festival in the

Devonian Gardens Thanksgiving weekend. Next week Taco Time (Oct. 8) and New York Fries (Oct. 22) will donate a portion of their day's sales. And all this month the Graduate Students' Association challenges graduate students to donate at least one dollar during "Loney-ness." ■



Dr. Terry Flannigan as he might look

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Nominations: One from each department

Number of Awards: Up to three, one to each division of the Faculty

Deadline: 15 January 1999

2) Sessional Instructor Teaching Awards

Eligibility: Instructors must have a minimum of nine course weights of teaching experience of which the most recent course was taught no earlier than the academic year preceding the one in which the nomination is made

Nominations: One from each department

Number of Awards: Granted to the three most deserving nominees in the Faculty taken as a whole

Deadline: 15 February 1999

3) Graduate Student Teaching Awards

Eligibility: Teaching assistants or advanced graduate students from the current or previous academic year who have, or had, full responsibility for teaching a course or section

Nominations: Two from each department

Number of Awards: Up to nine

Deadline: 15 February 1999

Nominations can be made by students, colleagues and/or department Chairs. Interested persons should discuss possible nominations with the appropriate department Chair well in advance of the deadline.

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by Geoff McMaster

JANET C. ROSS-KERR

Prepared to Care, Nurses and Nursing in Alberta

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA PRESS

Laura Attrux went to extraordinary lengths to bring children into the world. Fed up with impassable Alberta roads in the 1960s, the district nurse bought a Cessna 150 and learned to fly it so she could reach expectant mothers more quickly. Before she died in 1987, she said she'd delivered 1,032 babies over her career, never losing a mother.

"The district nurses were such pioneers in this province," says Janet Ross-Kerr, whose history of nursing in Alberta is replete with such tales of selfless heroism. "There was no health care available, and they were sent out to remote areas to do whatever was necessary. Their stories are just incredible."

Ross-Kerr's account of the nursing profession in Alberta begins with the arrival by ox-cart of three Grey Nuns, Sisters Alphonse, Emry and Lamy to Lac Ste-Anne in 1859. The three Montreal women traveled west at the request of Father Albert Lacombe to care for the native and Metis people in the region, at a time when "nursing was almost the only therapy available for those whose bodies were ravaged by infectious diseases."

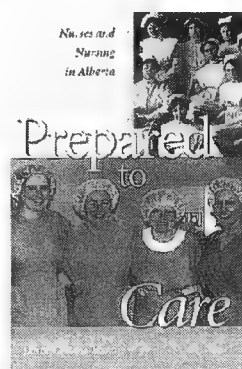
As the population grew, the Grey Nuns were eventually asked by a group of physicians to establish the Edmonton General Hospital in 1895. An uneasy relationship ushered in a struggle for recognition and respect that would continue through most of the twentieth century.

"They actually got into an altercation

with the physicians," says Ross-Kerr. The doctors wanted total control of this hospital they asked the Grey Nuns to build, and [the nuns] refused to give it to them."

Prepared to Care is a comprehensive study of the growth of nursing in Alberta over the past century, aimed at presenting "a perspective on the meaning of nurses' work and its relation to the social

fabric of the province and to the status of women in society." Since nursing was one of the few professions allowing women to enter the work force, Ross-Kerr examines the relationship between modern nursing and the 20th-century emancipation of women. "Gradually," she writes, "nurses would recognize that questioning, independent thinking and discovery of new knowledge were fundamental to outstanding nursing practise." ■



CHÈRE CAMPBELL GIBSON EDITOR

Distance Learners in Higher Education

ATWOOD PUBLISHING

Imagine receiving a university degree without ever meeting a professor face-to-face. That may sound like an extreme case, but there's little doubt distance learning is the frontier of post-secondary education as universities jockey to attract students from all over the world.

In their contribution to this collection of essays, Drs. Terry Anderson and Randy Garrison of the U of A's extension department examine crucial issues facing the long-distance learner. At its worst, says Anderson, distance education can ironically reinforce an outmoded model of education, as well as threaten the traditional face-to-face relationship between student and teacher.

"As its been traditionally practiced, [distance learning] has been a lot of behavioristic, dissemination-model learning, he says. "The idea that there's this body of content and I'm going to shove it down your throat and see if you regurgitate it back ... It doesn't encourage the higher order thinking, the critical thinking skills that a university is supposed to provide."

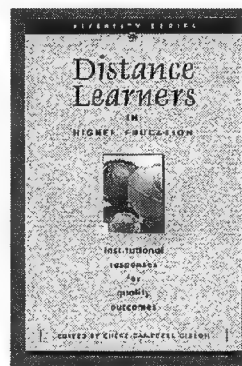
Distance learning technology is often used because it's cost-effective, especially in Third World countries with limited resources and few alternatives. While there's a

place for such an approach, he says, it's not at a major university. "We need the more highly human, interactive kinds of models of distance education...and opportunities for students to converse with researching faculty."

In *Distance Learners in Higher Education*, Anderson, Garrison and nine other writers tackle the wired university from several angles, speculating on how to construct an accurate profile of

the distance learner. Topics include the role of gender, cultural context, academic self-concept, as well as what educators and institutions can do to support this growing trend.

"If the distance learner is to succeed," writes editor Chère Campbell Gibson, "we, as faculty, must do more than provide access to information. We need to truly understand the learner and design learning environments that facilitate learning, environments that enhance access to, and success in, higher education." ■



U of A Press boosts sales

The U of A Press has provided its sales agency with an unprecedented five of its bestsellers. Kate Walker and Associates reports great success with the following titles:

- *The Ladies, the Gwich'in, and the Rat: Travels on the Athabasca, Mackenzie, Rat, Porcupine and Yukon Rivers in 1926* (finalist for the upcoming Banff Mountain Book Festival, Adventure Travel), Caral Vyvyan, edited by I.S. MacLaren and Lisa N. LaFramboise

- *Literary History of Alberta: From Writing-on-Stone to World War Two, Volume I*, George Melynk

- *Plants of Kanasaskis Country in the Rocky Mountains of Alberta*, Beryl Hallworth and C.C. Chinnappa

- *Prairie Water: Wildlife at Beaverhills Lake, Alberta*, Dick Dekker with photographs by Edgar T. Jones

- *Wildflowers of Calgary and Southern Alberta*, Richard Dickinson and France Royer

This news follows on the heels of recent auditor's report showing a 40 per cent increase in U of A Press sales over last year. ■

Submit talks by 9 a.m. one week prior to publication. Fax 492-2997 or e-mail at public.affairs@ualberta.ca.

ALBERTA CANCER BOARD

October 13, 7:30 pm
Peter Venner, "Why Men Should Make Such a Big Deal About Such a Small Gland." Zane Feldman Auditorium, Cross Cancer Institute, 11560 University Ave.

ACCOUNTING AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

October 2, 2:00 pm
Theresa Libby, Wilfred Laurier University, "An Exploration of the Relationship Between Fairness in Contracting and the Creation of Budgetary Slack." B-05 Business Building. Copies of the paper can be picked up from 3-20L Business Building.
October 8, 2:00 pm
Mark Nelson, Cornell University, "Over-Reliance on Previous Years' Earnings Can Cause Post-Earnings - Announcement Drift and Over-Reactions to Extreme Performance." B-09 Business Building. Copies of the paper can be picked up from 3-20L Business Building.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

October 2, noon
Rolph Vinebrook, "Resource and predator limitation of littoral food webs in mountain lakes and ponds." M-229 Biological Sciences Building.
October 9, noon
Mark Dale, "The use of wavelets for spatial pattern analysis in ecology." M-229 Biological Sciences Building.
October 14, noon
Robert Campenot, "Mechanisms of nerve growth and retrograde." B-105 Biological Sciences Building.
October 16, noon
Dominique Berteaux, "Winter feeding of ungulates: opportunities for debate and opportunities for research." M-229 Biological Sciences Building.

CHEMICAL AND MATERIALS ENGINEERING

October 8, 3:30 pm
Zhenghe Xu, "Wettability of Fine Solids Extracted from Bitumen Froth." 343 Chemical & Materials Engineering Building.
October 15, 3:30 pm
Rohit Patwardhan, "Performance Analysis of Dynamic Matrix Controllers: An Industrial Case Study." 343 Chemical & Materials Engineering Building.

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE, RELIGION & FILM/MEDIA STUDIES

October 5, 3:30 pm
Paul Heyer, Simon Fraser University, "Titanic: Disaster as Movie and Metaphor." L-4 Humanities Centre
October 6, 3:30 pm
Paul Heyer, Simon Fraser University, "The Medium and the Magician: The Radio Legacy of Orson Welles." L-4 Humanities Centre

EARTH & ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES

October 2, 3:00 pm
"Summer Field Work Slide Shows." 2-35 Earth Sciences Building
October 9, 3:30 pm
Claire Beaney, "The Subglacial Geomorphology of Southeast Alberta: Evidence for Meltwater Erosion." 3-36 Tory Building

CENTRE FOR RESEARCH FOR TEACHER EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

October 2, 12:30 pm
Reva Joshee, University of Washington, "Stopping to Listen: Teacher Understandings of Multicultural Policy and Practice." Cosponsored by the Centre for International Education and Development. 633 Education South

ELDON D. FOOTE LECTURE IN INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

October 6, 3:30 pm
Hugh Patrick, Columbia University, "Japan's Economic Misery: What next?" Faculty Club Dining Room. REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Ph: 492-2235, Fax: 492-5037, or e-mail: fcntres@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH & STUDIES CENTRE

October 7, 4:30 pm
Kelman Wieder, "Carbon Cycling, Peat & Globally Changing Climate: Good News, Bad News or No News?" Alumni Room, SUB
October 14, 4:30 pm
Andrew Bush, "Climate change: what we can learn from the study of the past." Alumni Room, SUB

HUMAN ECOLOGY

October 15, noon
Marlene Cox-Bishop, "Uncle Gabe and Other Tales from North of 60." 131 Home Economics Building

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

October 8, 3:30 pm
Roy Culpeper, President of the North-South Institute, "Canadian Corporations and Social Responsibility."

Cosponsored by the Centre for International Business Studies, Department of Political Science, & AIESEC. Tory Breezeway 2

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND GENETICS RESEARCH GROUP

October 2, 3:30 pm
Rick Rachubinski, "Pex20p, a novel type of chaperone involved in peroxisomal protein targeting." G-116 Biological Sciences Building
October 9, 3:30 pm
Cal Harley, Geron Corporation, California, "Telomeres, telomerase, aging, and cancer." Sponsored by the AHFMR. 3-27 Earth Sciences Building

NURSING

October 9, noon
Flo Myrick & Olive Yonge, "Evaluation - Preceptorship Courses." 6-102 Clinical Sciences Building.

PHILOSOPHY

October 2, 3:30 pm
Wesley Cooper, "James's Neutral Monism Ramsified Theory, and Cooked Wittgenstein." 4-29 Humanities Centre

PHYSICS

October 2, 3:15 pm
Gordon Rostoker, "Two 'Grand Challenge' Problems in Space Physics." V-129 Physics Wing
October 9, 3:15 pm
Mark Freeman, "Nanoscale Dynamics: The View from Picosecond Microscopy." V-129 Physics Wing

PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES

October 7, noon
Rob Hayward, "Cats, Cows, Caps and the Teaching of Evidence-Based Practice." 2F1.04 Walter C Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre
October 14, noon
Tee Guidotti, "Evidence-Based Medical Dispute Resolution: Science, Evidence, and Persuasion." 2F1.04 Walter C Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre

REHABILITATION MEDICINE

October 9, 1:00 pm
K.F. Shepard, Temple University, "Theory: Foundation for Practice, Foundation for Growth." Cosponsored by AHFMR. 2-07 Corbett Hall

RENEWABLE RESOURCES

October 8, 12:30 pm
Cam McGregor, Alberta Environmental Protection, "Alberta's Forest Legacy: An Implementation Framework for Sustainable Forest Management." 2-36 Earth Sciences Building

UNIVERSITY TEACHING SERVICES

October 5, 4:00 pm
Erhan Erkut, "Large Classes in Smart Classrooms." TL-B2 (Tory Lecture Theatre)
October 6, 3:30 pm
Brian Nielsen, "Evaluating Student Performance: Marking, Grading, Use of the Guidelines." 281 CAB
October 8, 3:30 pm
Rene Day, "Teaching Dossier: A Guide." 281 CAB
October 13, 3:30 pm
Mick Price, "Oral Exams: What Can They Tell Us - When Might They Be Appropriate?" 281 CAB
October 14, 3:00 pm
Peter Robertson, "Graduate Student Supervision: One Researcher's Experience." 281 CAB
October 15, 2:00 pm
Anil Walji, "Teaching Doctors a Better Bedside Manner - Anatomy of a New Curriculum." 281 CAB

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We thank everyone for their patience during this challenging time.

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October 6, 3:00 pm
Cello Masterclass with Ana Bylmer, 2-32 Fine Arts Building
October 6, 8:00 pm
The University of Alberta Symphonic Wind Ensemble Concert, Fordyce Pier, director, Convocation Hall, Arts Building. Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/students & seniors

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Professional development added to role of universities

Conference outlines learning needs of professional workforce

By Lee Elliott

Universities are increasingly offering continuing professional development as demand grows and opportunities for mutual benefit between universities and corporations abound.

"There's a huge market for people who have university education who want to continue that education at a fairly high level," said Dr. Doug Owram, vice-president academic, speaking Sept. 22 at a symposium sponsored by the U of A's recently established Institute for Professional Development.

And while it's still controversial among traditional academics, he said, "the university has to approach this as a fundamental part of its role, not as an add on."

Dr. Ronald Cervero, University of Georgia, a keynote speaker at the symposium, said educational trends are often the result of political, economic and cultural movements. Today, that pressure comes in the form of demands that public universities play a greater role in economic development. "Clearly, continuing education is part of the economic development strategy, and so universities and businesses are actively collaborating in structuring continuing education programs."

IBM started a partnership with New York University in 1996 to provide information-systems to professionals worldwide, said Cervero, and PricewaterhouseCoopers offers executive education in partnership with both Harvard and Dartmouth. Even Oxford has jumped on the bandwagon and now offers courses on-line through its continuing education department.

Increasingly, states and provinces are requiring continuing education as a basis for relicensing, said Cervero. "I think more professions are going to follow the example of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada who have developed the 'Maintenance of Competence Program' for recertification."

Industry is already responding to this demand by allocating funds to professional development that sometimes dwarf university budgets, said Cervero. "If the education arms of GE, AT&T or IBM were spun off as public universities, their revenues would exceed the budgets of Ohio State and Michigan, and I dare say, the University of Alberta."

But universities have much to gain by helping industry with their educational needs, he said. "I was recently told that Harvard set up a conference attended by several hundred professionals. The fundamental purpose of this conference was to meet the needs of a single individual. This dean told me he thought it was a successful conference because his professional school received a 'high, seven-figure cheque' from that individual at the conclusion of the conference."

You can't ignore the mutual benefits, he said. "Any director of continuing education... knows that she will be expected to generate surplus revenues to support faculty members' travel, research and instruction."

Dr. Bernie Eiseidel, director of the Institute for Professional Development, says the institute is working on an organizing concept with "continual professional learning and development for enhanced performance" at its core. The program will then balance inquiry, practice and instruction with innovative delivery methods that effectively use information, communication, and learning and teaching technologies.

Seventy-one representatives from the industry, government, professional associations and post-secondary institutions attended the symposium and participated in workshops to help the institute chart its course.



Dr. Ronald Cervero,
University of Georgia

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CALL NOW! To buy, sell, lease a condominium. \$49,000 to \$450,000. Please ask for Connie Kennedy, condo specialist/consultant, 25 years' expertise. Re/Max, 482-6766, 488-4000.

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VICTORIA PROPERTIES - knowledgeable, trustworthy, realtor with Edmonton references. Will answer all queries, send information, no cost/obligation. "Hassle-free" property management provided. 250-383-7100, Lois Dutton, Duttons & Co. Ltd. #101 - 364 Moss Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 4N1

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BY OWNER - GRAND-VIEW, clean, spacious 4-level split in quiet location. Four bedrooms, two

baths, dining room, family room. Hardwood floors, two fireplaces, window coverings, detached single garage and a covered carport. Large deck with patio doors. \$184,000. (403) 434-1259.

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HOUSESITTER: mature, non-smoking grad, pets welcome, housesitting references. Letter of agreement, Mark, 455-4351.

HOUSESITTERS AVAILABLE - responsible warm Christian couple will provide live-in housesitting for 6+ months. We have no children, no pets; non-smokers. Will do yard work, shovelling. References available. Bob/Lenora, 486-4269.

GOODS FOR SALE

CASH PAID for quality books. The Edmonton Book Store, 433-1781.

HARPISCHORD. Sabathil, 1970. Two manuals. Cast aluminum frame. \$2500. Please call Susan, 461-6968.

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TECH VERBATIM EDITING - APA, Chicago; medical terminology; on campus. Donna Maskell, 922-6263.

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ACUPRESSURE - a restful and restorative experience is provided by Gary Holdgrafer, registered practitioner (JSDF, BCATA) and member of UA academic staff. It is covered in UA benefit plans for academic and support staff. Call 452-8251.

LIBRARY RESEARCH - resourceful, knowledgeable, efficient, organized. Five years' experience includes science, engineering, arts. Leanne, 439-0245.

DO YOU HAVE A CAR OR TRUCK in your yard that does not run? Want it removed before winter, for free. 454-1955.

MISCELLANEOUS

JUNGIAN ANALYST candidate in training with C.G. Jung Institute, Zurich, has openings. Call Marlene Brouwer, 463-5422.

notices

Please send notices attention Folio 400 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, T6G 2E8 or e-mail public.affairs@ualberta.ca. Notices should be received by 3 p.m. one week prior to publication.

ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS DESMOND TUTU TO SPEAK

Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu from South Africa will deliver the inaugural U of A Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights, Nov. 29 at 3 p.m. at the Jubilee Auditorium. Tickets for the lecture are on sale at Ticketmaster for \$10 each.

APPLICATION DEADLINE EFF-FSIDA

The deadline for receipt of applications to the EFF-FSIDA (Fund for Support of International Development Activities) is October 15, 1998.

This fund exists to enable staff and graduate students (normally PhD candidates) of the University of Alberta to participate in the international transfer of knowledge and expertise through partnerships in developing countries.

Application forms are available from University of Alberta International, 2-10 University Hall; phone: 492-2391.

CANADA SAVINGS PLAN CORRECTION

In a recent campus communication, an error was made with regards to the amount of the monthly administrative fee for Canada Savings Plans and RSPs. The correct percentage is .07 per cent.

FACULTY OF ARTS, CHAIR SELECTION COMMITTEES

The Faculty of Arts wishes to announce that chair selection committees have been established for the following departments: anthropology; comparative literature, religion, and film/media studies; modern languages and cultural studies; Germanic, Romance, Slavic; philosophy; psychology; and sociology. The committees invite nominations for the position of chair in each of these departments as well as comments from members of the university community.

These should be addressed to Dr. Patricia Clements, dean of arts, 6-33 Humanities.

laurels

The Materials Engineering Technical Society, or METS, has won a Chapter of Excellence Award for 1998 from the American Society for Materials (ASM) in Metals Park, Ohio and The Materials Society (TMS) in Warrendale, Pennsylvania. This award is given only to the top five student chapters in North America, which includes chapters at many universities and technical institutes. ASM has over 30,000 members worldwide.

METS is open to all students in the Materials Engineering Program in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering.

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CELEBRATE 90 and WIN!

Return this entry to Public Affairs, 400 Athabasca Hall by Thursday, October 8 and you could win two tickets to the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra's Magnificent Master Series performance with special guest Juliette Kang, violin, on October 9, 1998 at 8 pm.



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Fall For Greenwoods!

October 5th 7:30 pm

Location: Provincial Museum Gallery 3

Meet author and CBC radio host,

Jay Ingram, who will

be reading from his new book,

The Barmaid's Brain and presenting

a slide show.

Tickets \$5

October 6th 7:30 pm

Location: Royal Glenora Club

Meet **Gail-Anderson-Dargatz**,

the author of the bestselling

The Cure For Death By Lightning, and

a new novel, *A Recipe for Bees*.

Join Greenwoods' for a reading, signing, and refreshments.

Tickets \$5

October 23rd 7:30 pm

Location: MacDonald Hotel

Meet Maeve Binchy, the bestselling

Irish author, who will be reading

from her new novel, *Tara Road*, and Aislin,

the Canadian political cartoonist.

Tickets \$5

October 26th 7:30 pm

Location: GMCC Downtown Campus, rm 5-142

Jack Hodgins, the author of *A Passion for*

Narrative, will be reading from his new novel,

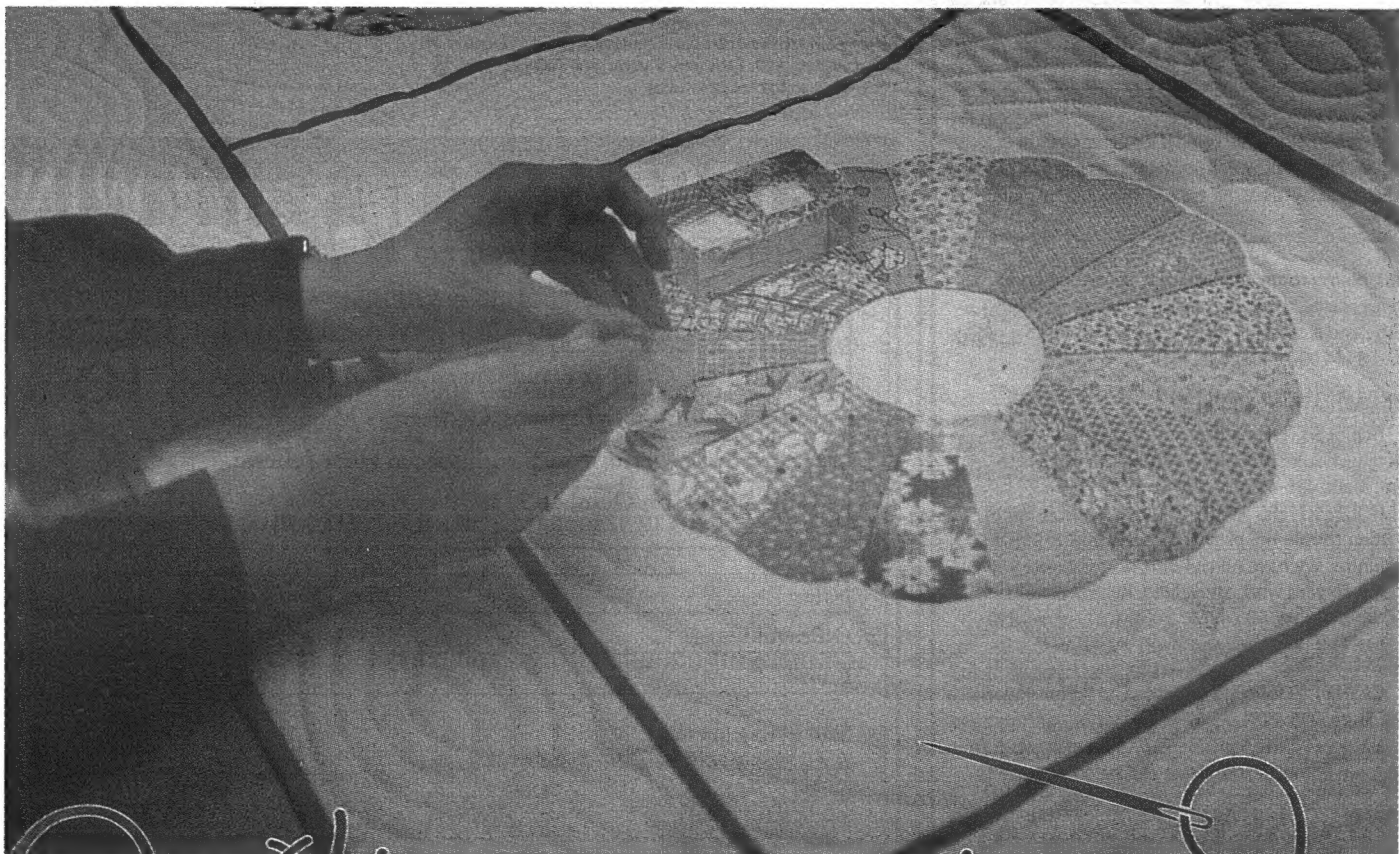
Broken Ground.

Free

Net proceeds from all ticket sales will be donated to the U of A Writer in Residence Program

For information updates, phone 439-2005, peruse www.greenwoods.com/events, or drop by **Greenwoods' Bookshoppe**, 10355 Whyte Ave.





Quilt me a story

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

It was started in memory of her mother who passed away this summer: a quilt with patches of 28 pairs of hands belonging to family members, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, cut out from cloth they each selected for the quilt.

"It will stay at the family cottage at the lake when it's done," says Dr. Elizabeth Richards, a professor in human ecology. The quilt is still in the making because Richards was concentrating on completing her PhD at the U of A in textile science. A picture of her parents on their wedding day is at the centre, and heart, of the family quilt.

Quilting is experiencing a huge resurgence these days, says Richards. "It's a craft, a form of expression for women, and it's fun to do." It's also a way for people to share their stories in a supportive environment, she says, and "it's a great hobby."

It must be more than just a hobby. A recent quilt show at the Chateau Louis in Edmonton attracted about 2,000 people, and the Alberta Craft Council has an exhibit on until Nov. 7, 1998. A woman at the council said the "artists" will be available on opening night.

Indeed, looking at the many glorious quilts in the U of A's collection, it's easy to see how putting a needle and thread together with a variety of materials can result in some spectacular pieces.

"It's one form of fibre art," says Richards. Some people may snicker, thinking it's on the lowest rung of the ladder of fibre art after weaving and embroidering. But many people look at quilts as beautiful artifacts, not just crafts.

"Quilts tell us about social history," says Richards. Prior to the 19th century, it was important for women to have a hope chest full of quilts in preparation

for upcoming nuptials. Quilts were also sewn together out of necessity, using left over material scraps, or, in one case in the U of A collection, fabric from old men's suits. Making quilts in the olden days, and even today, was a means of socializing for women. Neighbors would get together to help one another finish quilts. Remember the movie, *How to Make an American Quilt*? You get the drift.

Initially, says Richards, quilting was a hobby for the wealthy and upper classes who would purchase and import fine expensive materials for their craft. Women were practicing their needlework skills, not worrying about the functional qualities of their work. While it appears to have a grounding in European and Eastern cultures, like British, Italian and Japanese, Richards says it's popularity grew because of North American interest, when women settlers began making quilts out of small pieces for their families. The advent of the sewing machine in the 1850s and the availability of cotton fabrics spurred more quilt production since women were now relieved of weaving their own yarns to make materials. With one obstruction out of the way, the focus turned to other things.

Richards can easily identify how old quilts are by patterns, fabrics and stitching. "It was not common for quilts to be embroidered until the '20s and '30," she says. She points to another and says the print size and color of its fabric show it was made in the '40s. You can identify an antique quilt, which can fetch up to \$4,000 dollars among collectors, because of the brown tones and pink-on-pink colors, she says.

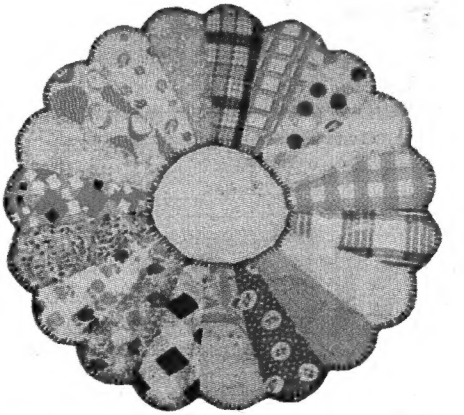
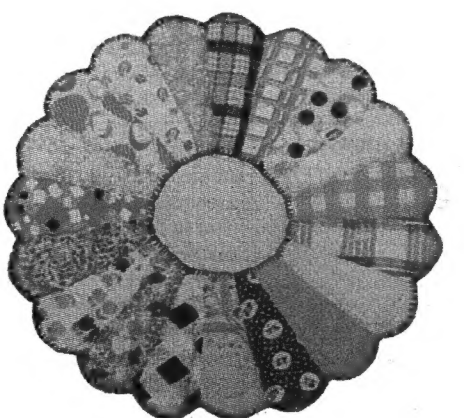
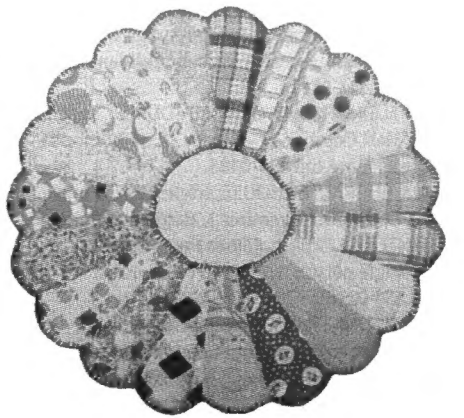
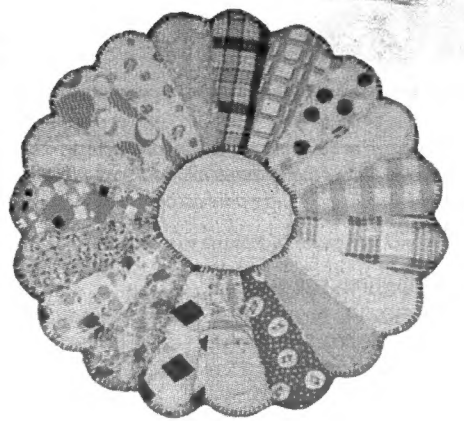
"There are not a lot of old quilts in Alberta, unless they were brought here, because it's a young province. But we do see a lot of quilts from the Depression era."

At that time women couldn't wait to cut out patterns in their local newspaper, many of which were syndicated columns, and get together in their groups, she says.

And when women weren't quilting for themselves, they did it for others. One bachelor in the 1940s commissioned a quilt from a woman who made one with an obvious sense of humor—a series of women prancing with their parasols. The professor laughs: "Think of all those ladies at once on his bed!"

Another quilt in the clothing and textiles collection carries a quieter tone. Made for a baby, it's in perfect condition, says Richards. "The baby probably died. It was hardly used."

The Richards' family quilt, however, will warm many a family member on a cold and rainy day at the cottage. ■



Dr. Elizabeth Richards and the first set of hands in the family quilt.

Lucianna Ciccocioppo



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